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PAGE 01 STATE 296856
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INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 SIG-03 DODE-00 PM-05
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MCT-02 INRE-00 SY-05 USSS-00 H-02 AID-05 SS-15
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DRAFTED BY CA/SCS:JDIETERICH:ACM
APPROVED BY ARA:JBUSHNELL
S/S-O: RCASTRODALE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE
UNCLAS STATE 296856
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE
Q. TO WHAT EXTENT ARE US MILITARY FORCES INVOLVED IN SEARCH EFFORTS IN GUYANA?
A. ALTHOUGE ACTUAL GROUND SEARCH EFFORTS IN THE JONES-TOWN AREA ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GUYANESE POLICE AND MILITARY. THE US MILITARY IS PROVIDING ANY SUPPORT THEY REQUIRE.IN PARTICULAR, WE HAVE MADE AVAILABLE HELICOPTERS INCLUDING ONE WITH LOUDSPEAKERS. WE HAVE ALSO FURNISHED WALKIE TALKIES AND OTHER SUPPLIES.
Q. WEY AREN'T U.S. FORCES BEING USED FOR GROUND SEARCH?

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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PAGE 02 STATE 296856
A. BOTE THE US GOVERNMENT AND THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT AGREE TFAT SEARCHING IN THE JUNGLE AROUND JONESTOWN CAN BEST BE HANDLED BY THOSE LOCAL FORCES FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA AND THE PREVAILING JUNGLE CONDITIONS. BOTH ALSO AGREE THAT US MILITARY FORCES CAN BE USED MOST EFFICIENTLY IN AIR SEARCH AND SUPPLY ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE DECEASED FROM GUYANA TO THE U.S.
Q. WHAT IS THE COST TO THE US GOVERNMENT OF ALL THESE OPERATIONS RELATED TO THE JONESTOWN TRAGEDY?
A. TEESE ARE OBVIOUSLY VERY COMPLEX OPERATIONS IN-VOLVING VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE US GOVERNMENT AND MANY SUBDIVISIONS WITHIN THOSE DEPARTMENTS. AT ANY RATE IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO COME UP WITH A DEFINITIVE COST SINCE MANY ELEMENTS INVOLVED ARE IN FACT ONGOING ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE ALREADY FUNDED. IT WILL TAKE TIME TO DEFINE AND IDENTIFY WHICH PARTS OF THOSE ACTIVITIES ARE SPECIFICALLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE GUYANA SITUATION.
Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE RETURN OF SURVIVORS TO THE US?
A. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING TEAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF

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THE SURVIVORS, EXCEPT THOSE AGAINST WHOM THERE ARE GUYANESE LEGAL CHARGES PENDING, WILL BE RETURNING TO THE US. HOWEVER, I HAVE NO SPECIFICS FOR YOU AT THIS TIME.
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